

FILE COPY

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows.

(NE) Page 1, before the first complete paragraph insert "FIELD OF THE INVENTION".

Page 1, after the first complete paragraph insert "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION".

Page 2, before the first complete paragraph insert "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION".

Page 5, after the fifth complete paragraph insert "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS".

Page 5, before the first paragraph from the bottom insert "DETAILED DESCRIPTION".

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 3-8 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) Material machining belt, especially a grinding or polishing belt, with releasable shape-mated connection device on an end to form an endless belt, in which the shape-mated connection device is formed with a recess with a closed edge on the end and a counterpiece on an other end, characterized in that the recess is designed as an elongated hole whose length corresponds roughly to a width of the material machining belt, the recess having a longitudinal axis that runs parallel to long sides of the material machining belt, in that the elongated hole has a first and a second region, in which an expansion in a transverse direction of the material machining belt, of the first region is greater than the expansion of the second region, and in that the first region faces the end of the belt and the second region faces away from the belt the end of the belt.